

You're Invited to Join the Kansas Coalition for Children in Nature

Be a part of insuring that ALL our children have opportunities to learn and play outdoors!

What is the Kansas Coalition for Children in Nature?

On April 13, 2009, former Governor Kathleen Sebelius signed an Executive Order forming the Kansas Coalition for Children in Nature (KCCN). The KCCN was created to foster Kansas youth's appreciation of the outdoors.

"Kansas is blessed with an abundance of natural beauty and this coalition will work to make sure Kansas children experience all that our state has to offer," Sebelius said. "Environmental education is the first step toward helping our children learn to protect and preserve our planet."

The Kansas Coalition for Children in Nature (KCCN) will promote outdoor learning experiences and environmental education for the young people of Kansas and provide ongoing support for these endeavors.

Governor Mark Parkinson has appointed the convener's of the KCCN and outlined the tasks for the Coalition (full details at: <http://www.kacee.org/kansas-coalition-children-nature>)



Who Should Join the Kansas Coalition for Children in Nature?

- Teachers, School Administrators, School Boards
- Teacher Education Professionals/Higher Education
- Parents, Parent/Teacher Organizations
- Early Childhood Professionals
- Educators working in zoos, parks, nature centers
- Youth Organizations in Urban and Rural settings
- Local/State Government/Agencies
- Children's Health Organizations/Agencies, Pediatric Professionals,
- Agricultural and Business Groups who support children in nature
- Youth Hunting/Fishing Organizations

Become a part of the Kansas Coalition for Children in Nature if you want to help to insure ALL our children have opportunities to learn and play outdoors!



Getting Involved...

What To Expect...

Three work groups have been established to create plans addressing the outcomes identified in the Executive Order (full details at: <http://www.kacee.org/kansas-coalition-children-nature>):

1. **Environmental Education** (formal learning experiences in with children in a variety of settings)
2. **Outdoor Experiences and Recreation** (including play, recreation, exploration, etc.)
3. **Health** (time/access to nature and relationship to children's health)

In joining a workgroup, you will be asked to participate in 3-5 meetings (in person or via conference call) and contribute to the creation, review and completion of the plans related to the topic area. We need reviewers as well, so please contact us if you're interested. Plans need to be completed by workgroup by **September 2010**.

Yes! I want to be a part of the Kansas Coalition for Children in Nature!

For more information please contact or send your contact information to the group(s) you're interested in participating with:



Environmental Education: Laura Downey, ldowney@kacee.org or 785-532-3322

Outdoor Experiences & Recreation: Doug Vance, doug@krpa.org or 785-691-7708

Health: Shari Wilson, swilson@kacee.org or 913-287-6879